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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**
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11 BRUCE BIRCH,)
12 Petitioner,) 2:11-cv-00516-GMN-LRL
13 vs.)
14 DWIGHT NEVEN, et al.,) ORDER
15 Respondents.)
16 _____)

17 Petitioner has submitted a habeas corpus petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254, and the
18 matter of his filing fee remains pending. However, there appears to be certain matters relevant to the
19 petitioner and his efforts to present his habeas petition to the Court that will be best handled with the
20 assistance of counsel. The nature of his claims are serious. Petitioner faces a life sentence without the
21 possibility of parole. Therefore, in *forma pauperis* status will be granted and the Federal Public
22 Defender for the District of Nevada (FPD) shall be appointed to represent petitioner. If the FPD is
23 unable to represent petitioner, due to a conflict of interest or other reason, then alternate counsel for
24 petitioner shall be located, and the Court will enter a separate order appointing such alternate counsel.
25 In either case, counsel will represent petitioner in all future federal proceedings relating to this matter
26 (including subsequent actions) and appeals therefrom, unless allowed to withdraw.

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